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O 021406Z APR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1862  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS ROME 000378

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/RHS OSTERMEIER AND PATEL AND DRL/MLGA  
SICADE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [IT](#)

SUBJECT: ITALY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT U.S. CANDIDACY FOR UN  
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

REF: STATE 31175

(U) Poloff delivered reftel points to MFA Deputy UN Officer  
Director Leonardo Bencini April 1, informing Italy of the  
U.S. decision to seek a seat on the UN Human Rights Council  
and requesting Italian support in the May elections. Bencini  
called the decision a very positive development, and said  
that Italy would strongly support our run. He said he would  
relay our points immediately to the office of FM Frattini.  
DIBBLE